G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

File No. 538

1914

(Madurai)

Serial Nos. 1–6

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1 — 6

Part B for July 15

SUBJECT.

Sri Sringeri Matha affairs

~~Messrs~~ Bhagavan Venkatramana & Sri Lakshmiah of Sringeri No 267 27.7.15

Informs that the articles refd to in the "New India" are not a Suffici basis to take any action.

GPB—10,000—23 3·15

C Krishnamachariar
VCI

G. R. S. 11]

1914

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Miscn)

NOTES.

538-14
File No.

FILE HEADING.

Re - the Sree Sringeri matha affairs.

From

A cutting from "The Karnataka" of the 15th May 1915, entitled, "A matter for urgent attention"

No. Cutting

Dated 15.5.15 Received 25.5.15

Diary No. 1886	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

states that the resources of the matha in question are being wasted in the construction of grand, costly & useless piles of buildings of a Hindu - ~~Saracenic~~ Saracenic style; that educational & such like useful objects are being starved; that money is spent lavishly in entertaining Specialguests & their followers etc ~~etc~~ that the accounts of the institution "have never known scrutiny of any sort for over a quarter of a century", and suggests the institution of a system of regular audit and inspection into the secular affairs of the matha, & lastly if an administration report duly constituted would not remedy the evils complained of to a great extent

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Notes & orders.

Draft letter to the Dy Com[r] of Kadur

NOTES—First Sheet.

GPB - 20,000—8-8-14

for early report on the several items of alleged misuse of the Matt funds & the lack of maladministration enumerated in the article as well as on the suggestions hinted therein for remedying the evils complained of, submit for approval or other orders.

525

27.5.15 First Member

Mr Lawrence Chisholm

28/5

This is not such a simple matter as the draft enquiry would make out. What are the exact charges: and are there any rules & precedents under which we can carry out the enquiry? Please What remedies can we apply if the allegations made are proved? Please discuss & note in detail.

31/5/15

1/6

1.6.15

Subj. to the under Secy.

Put up Mys. Rep. also cutting from another article from

(C) R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. 538 of 1914

Serial No.	
	Vallabha Bharati which appeared a couple of days ago in New India on the same question
	Rec. 4.6.15
2	a cutting from the Vrittanta Patrike dt 3.6.15 on the same subject.
3	a Pet. Dated the 24.5.15 addressed to His Highness the Yuvaraja by Bhargava Venkatramana and M. Sankaraiya. Stating that the charges brought by Motilal in the articles are true & praying that a Sitting Committee may be appointed to enquire into the causes of Maladministration & relief be given on the future adm. of the Mysore State
4 & 5	Cuttings from the Karnataka dated 19.6.15 reminding about the articles in 15.5.15 Issue
3A.	Same as Sl. No. 3 above addressed to the Dewan.
	Petition D. No. 56 of 15.16 from Bhargava Venkatramana and M. Sankaraiya addressed to the Dewan has been received. This a copy of Sl. No. 3 which is addressed to H.H. the Yuvaraja of Mysore.
	The various issues of the New India containing articles on the Mismanagement of the Sri Sringeri matha are sub? for perusal as well as

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—25,000—2-11 14

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. 538 of 1914

Serial No.

a copy of the Mussri Regulation and the Rules under the Mussri Regulation.

First members order on the last Petn is as follows:—

"Refer Petr to S. of the Muss: "Regn and say that an enquiry "can be initiated legally by only "under that provision"

(Copy of Petn and reply may be sent to agent) Draft to be submitted.

SG H.V.N. 8/7/15

Draft endorsement and draft letter to the agent are subd for approval. After issue of these Comns, the further proceedings of the first member raised on page 2 supra will be pursued.

SG 10.7.15 27

Subd for Hr. member

Two drafts as indicated on the margin of the petitions are put up for approval or other orders. With due deference I beg to submit

NOTE--Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—20 1 12

Serial No.

even
that, the notice now proposed to be
taken of the petitions is capable
of being misinterpreted both by the
petitioners and the Chief Agent.

The four articles published
in New India do not give any
specific act of Malversation but treat
the question of the administration of
the Mathas ~~from~~ more or less dog-
matically ~~standpoint~~, apparently
from a modernist standpoint. The
articles propose to treat the Mathas
merely as a public institution where
the managers should be held responsible
to the public and condemns the
present agent and his ways and
recommends the substitution of
Committee management. The
proposals may conceivably be
a decided improvement upon
the present administration but
these are matters which should be
left to the pressure of public opinion
of the disciples on the Mathas and
must it appears be worked out
after the advent of executive Govt.

Apart from the legal

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—20 1 12

Serial No.

Competency of the Matadhipati to manage the Mutt affairs, it seemed to be inexpedient in the case of an ancient and revered mutha like the Sringeri to take any action which would tend to lower the prestige of the institution unless on consideration of very gross mismanagement or malversation which is not now alleged.

In the circumstances of the present case it appears to me that no action is called for either on the petitions or articles. If a reply is considered to be due to the petitioners they may be simply told that Govt. consider that the matter is one which should be brought to the notice of the Matadhipati by the petitioners themselves. As regards the articles, already there has been a defence in the same paper and the matter may be left to the fourth estate between the two parties - liberal and advanced Section and the conservative and orthodox Section - the assistance of which is admitted by the Correspondent himself.

Lee
10.7.15

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—25 000—8-11-14

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. S 38 of 1914

Serial No.

On second thoughts, I think it best perhaps not to give a reply at all. But silence may be misconstrued also and probably these people will go on presenting more petitions.

The petitioners may be given a reply as drafted by me now.

Dewan. 19/7/15

Petitioners are informed orally accordingly

Typed by A.I.

Put up
24/7/15
Lia
22/7/15

3 S-1
22-7-15

Draft approved by the Dewan. 23-7-15

2 Store
Put 24/7/15
Lia

6 No: 267 of 22/23.7.15 - 2 Mr Bhaskara Kesava Kalaramana & Mr Sreenivasa Kanlaiya, Suttoor, informs that Government there is no petitioner for intervening in the matter affecting as suggested in their letter

Put up the papers on the following Wednesday
Lia 30/7/15

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—95,000—9-11-14

G.R.S. 13]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Mis. 328/16 A
18.5.15.

Cutting from Kamakshi, of 15-16th May 1915 containing an article on the maladministration of Srirangam Math affairs

Subject

May this be sent to Branch VII?

RRM
19/5

For VIII
18.5
Secy

Yes
A
19/5/15

For VII

RRM

S 18/5

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

GPB—50,000—29-6-14

VIEWS AND REVIEWS

DIARY NO 1886
19/5
Mad 2

A MATTER FOR URGENT ATTENTION—A correspondent, calling himself *Vallabha Bharati*, has sent us a lengthy communication touching the administration—, or the maladministration as he would have it,—of the Sringeri Matt; and has desired us to draw public attention to the matter which we hereby do with the utmost willingness. His article is worded too strongly even for the *Karnataka* and it displays much local knowledge, which means that his complaint deserves the close attention of all persons concerned. Moreover, the question he has raised affects in a similar manner the administration of all our Mutts; and now when the awakened mind of the country is so busy planning social, economic and political reform, the future of these hoary institutions which have still a great hold on popular affection must surely come in for a large share of attention. The charges which the correspondent lays against the management of the Sringeri Mutt, are: (i) that its resources are being wasted in the construction of "grand, costly and withal useless piles of buildings of a Hindu *cum* Saracenic *cum* Gothic style;" (ii) that money is spent on "equally profitless and disproportionately costly entertainments to *official* guests and their followers"; (ii) that Educational and other useful objects are being "starved"; (iv) that offers of help made by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Mrs Annie Besant and several other eminent followers of Hinduism were rejected as they involved certain conditions; (v) that the accounts of the institution "have never known scrutiny of any sort for over a quarter of a century," and (vi) that the very considerable underground wealth of the Jahgir remains unexploited owing to the opposition of of the authorities. While we bring an open mind to the consideration of these allegations, we also see that they are quite rational in theirtone and essence and therefore deserve a careful hearing. "One man rule" is becoming impossible as much in matters ecclesiastical as in those political; and wise statesmanship is his who tries to understand and sympathise with the spirit of Demos whose progress no known force on earth can resist. The Government has itself sought to democratise the administration of our Muzrai institutions; and it would only be in the fitness of things to institute at once a system of regular audit and inspection into the secular affairs of our Muttts. An annual administration report, duly certified by a committee appointed for this purpose, consisting of the disciples of the Mutt itself, would go a great way towards heightening institution in the public eye and securing larger and readier support for its objects.

ವೃತ್ತಾಂತ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ, ತಾರೀಖು ೩ನೇ ಜೂನ್, ೧೯೧೫.

Pris. 362 IE 15
7-6-15

DIARY No. 1999
19/4 19 15
Subject Mutt
File No. S 38-14
SERIAL No. 2

ಶೃಂಗೇರಿ ಜಹಗೀರ್ ವಿದ್ಯಮಾನಗಳು.

ಅಯ್ಯಾ,—ಶೃಂಗೇರಿ ಜಹಗೀರ್ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರಮ ತಪ್ಪಿರುವುದು ಯೇಜಂಟ್‌ರಿಗೆ ಮೊದಲಿನಿಂದಲೂ ಶೃಂಗೇರಿ ಜನಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಭಿಮಾನ ಕಡಮೆ ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ ಜನಾನುರಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಜನಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಸಮಾಧಾನಕರವಾದ ಕೆಲಸಗಳೇ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿವೆ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಣರು ಗದ್ದೆಯನ್ನು ಹೂಡಬಹುದೆಂತ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಕೆಲವರು ಹೂಡಿದರು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಜನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರ್ಟಿಯಾಯಿತು. ಈಗ ಗದ್ದೆ ಹೂಡುವುದು ಸರಿಯಲ್ಲವೆಂತ ತಿಳಿಸಿದಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಕಲಹವು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿತು ಹೀಗೆ ಅನೇಕ ವಿಚಾರಗಳು ನಡೆದಿವೆ ಮುರದ ಹಣಗಳು ನಾನಾ ಅನುಪಯುಕ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿಚ್ಛಾಗುತ್ತಲಿವೆ ಕೆಲವನ್ನು ಮುರದ ವಿರ್ಚಿಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದೇ ಕಷ್ಟ. ಬಡವರಿಗೂ ರೈತರಿಗೂ ಸುಲಭ ಬಡ್ಡಿಯಿಂದ ಸಾಲ ಕೊಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬೇಕಾದವರಿಗೆ ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಸಾಲ ದೊರಕುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದೆಲ್ಲಾ ವೆಚ್ಚಕ್ಕೂ ಗುರುಗಳ ಅಪ್ಪಣೆಯೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ ಮುಂತಾದ ನ್ಯಾಯವಾದ ಧರ್ಮ ವಿಚ್ಚುಗಳು ಅದಷ್ಟು ಕಡಮೆಯಾಗಿವೆ. ವ್ಯರ್ಥವಾದ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಣವು ವಿಚ್ಛಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಬೇಕಾದವರಿಗೆ ಸಾಲವನ್ನು ಧರ್ಮವಾಗಿ ಬಿಡುವದೂ ಉಂಟು. ಪಾಠಶಾಲೆಯಂತೂ ಬಹಳ ಹೀನಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತ ವಿದ್ಯೆಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದೀ ಊರಿಗೆ ಕಾ ಮ ಹತ್ತಿದೆ. ಮುರಕ್ಕೆ ದಿಗರು ಮಾಡುವವರಿಗೆ ಉದ್ಯೋಗವು ಸಿಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರಿಯಂತೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ, ವಯಸ್ಸು, ಯೋಗ್ಯತೆ ಬೇಕಾಗಿಲ್ಲವು ಈಗಿರುವ ಡೆಪ್ಯಿ ಅಮಲ್ದಾರರ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಪುಂಡುತನಗಳು ಕಡಮೆಯಾಗಿವೆ ಇವರೆ ಭೀತಿಯು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿದೆ. ಜನಾನುರಾಗಿಗಳಾಗಿದಾರೆ. ಈ ಅಮಲ್ದಾರರನ್ನು ವರ್ಗಮಾಡಿಸುವ ವರ್ತಮಾನವಿದೆ. ನ್ಯಾಯವನ್ನು ಹೇಳುತ್ತೇವೆಂತ ಮುಂದು ಬರುವವರಿಗೆ ನೌಕರಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟೇವೆ, ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ವಿಧವಾಗಿಯೋ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ತರುತ್ತಾರೆ ಇನ್ನು ಕೆಲವರು ಬಡವರು ; ಕೆಲವರು ಮುರದಿಂದ ಜೀವನ ಮಾಡುವವರು. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಯಾವದೂ ಎದುರಿಗೆ ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಗುರುಗಳ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡರೂ ನಡೆಯುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಅವರು ಯಾವ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನೂ ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ಕಾಣುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸದ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೌರ್ ಆಫ್ ಅಟರ್ನಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತೆಂತ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇದಾದರೆ ಜನಗಳ ಕಷ್ಟವು ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವುದು. ಈ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ಧ್ಯಾನಹೊಂದಿದ 'ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ವಿಚಾರಮಾಡಿ ಕ್ರಮಪಡಿಸುವರೆಂತ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಮುರಾಭಿಮಾನಿ

A correspondent writes that there are grave irregularities in the Sringeri Jahagir, that parties have arisen and Mutt money is being spent on useless and another expenditure, which hardly belong to mutt ~~expenses~~, purposes. Wants the Govt to enquire into the matter and rectify matters. Submitted. Translation to be put in

7/6

5-6-15
kmd

DIARY No. 2030

9/4/19 15
SECTION Price
FILE No. S 3814
SERIAL No. 3

DIARY No. 11028
9 19
SECTION
FILE No.
SERIAL No.

SXS

May it please your Most Esteemed, Revered and Beloved Highness.

May we your Highness's loyal and law-abiding subjects at Srungere, humbly take the liberty to beseech your august attention to the series of Articles appearing since Friday the 21st Inst. in the "New India" of Madras about the administration of our various religious Institutions beginning most appropriately with our beloved Srungere mutt? Their contents seem to be expressed forcibly by one possessing accurate information from close local study and well therefore clearly, eloquently and convincingly speak for themselves, but may we point out — as does the Editor of the "Karnataka" of Bangalore — that the ideas therein contained are eminently rational in their tone and essence, and deserve the careful and even urgent attention of all persons concerned and are also the very ideas we have long and helplessly been struggling to express but could not owing to various causes? In the circumstances —

especially in view of the rumours current in official as well as popular circles here about the imminency of His Holiness being made to give the present Agent a General Power of Attorney — we are obliged to throw ourselves at the feet of your Highness and entreat you as the beloved idol of the people, the devoted Bhaktha of His Holiness and the immaculate guardian of public justice, to follow the articles serially, cause close investigation of all the points to be conducted by a strong justice — loving Commission of enquiry and to settle the future course of the mutt administration on the basis of the conclusions arrived at by such a Commission after receiving all available evidence of your devoted subjects on the matter?

For which act of gracious kindness, your humble applicants shall ever pray for your long life, health and prosperity.

Bhargava Venkataramanna
p.p. the people of Srirangam

M Srinivasa Iyengar

Srirangam
24.5.15

13

56

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
1915-1916
SECTION Mucr
FILE No. 538
SERIAL No. 3A
Date of Receipt 4861
Petn. Regr. No. 6110

Most Respectfully Sheweth

May it please your Honour's loyal and law-abiding subjects at Sringeri, humbly take the liberty to beseech your Highness' attention to the series of articles appearing since Friday the 2nd Inst. in the "New India" of Madras about the administration of our various religious Institutions beginning most appropriately with our beloved Sringeri mutt? Their contents seem to be expressed forcibly by one possessing accurate information from close local study and will therefore clearly, eloquently and convincingly speak for themselves, but may we point out - as does the Editor of the "Karnataka" of Bangalore - that the ideas therein contained are eminently rational in their tone and essence, and deserve the careful and even urgent attention of all persons concerned and are also the very ideas we have long and helplessly been struggling to express but could not owing to various causes? In these circumstances

Refer Petr & S & of the Mucr Regr & say that an enquiry can be initiated legally only under that provn.

8/7/15

(Copy of Petn & reply may be sent to Agent.)

(Draft & besent up)

9/7 be 9/7

especially in view of the rumours current in official as well as popular circles here about the imminency of His Holiness being made to give the present Agent a General power of attorney — we are obliged to throw ourselves at the feet of your honour and entreat you as the beloved idol of the people, the devoted Bhakata of His Holiness and the immaculate guardian of public justice, to follow the articles serially, cause close investigation of all the points to be conducted by a strong justice-loving Commission of enquiry and to settle the future course of the mutt administration on the basis of the conclusions arrived at by such a commission after receiving all available evidence of your devoted subjects on the matter?

For which act of gracious kindness, your humble applicants shall ever pray for your long life, health and prosperity.

Sringeri
24.5.15

Obhargava Venkataramana
P.P. for people of Sringeri

M. Sreekantiah

DIARY No. 2120

19/4 to 15
SECTION Misc
FILE NO. 536-9/4 Date 30th June 1915
SERIAL NO. 4

Extract from the Karnataka, Date 30th June 1915.

The Sringeri mutt. — We cannot say whether the paragraph and the letters which appeared a few weeks back in these columns about (affairs of the) the Sringeri mutt, and other mutts generally have made any impression in the proper quarters so that we could expect an early rectification of the defects brought to light. The subject, it is hardly necessary to repeat is one of very great consequence for the social and religious well-being of the Hindu Community and therefore it ought to obtain the immediate and serious attention of our government and our public men If the Spirit that was behind the Muzrai Regulation is really alive, it is reasonable to hope that Courageous action will soon be taken to appoint; in the first instance, of a strong and unbiassed committee to enquire into the exact state of affairs of the mutt and submit a report for the satisfaction of the public. The question of a committee of management may be thought of later on. By the way, is it true that the formation of such a committee had already been sanctioned by govt a few years ago, but was cancelled subsequently owing to some reasons not yet made public?

× "Copy" ×

V.S. Rama Iyer
29 6 15 Manager Q. A. Branch.

The Sringeri Mutt.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "KARNATAKA."

SIR,—It was with feelings of intense surprise mingled with acute pain that many of us perused the series of articles which appeared in the *Karnataka* of May 15th and the *New India* of May 21, 22 and 24 and June 1st *anent* the present administration of the Sringeri Mutt and proposals for bettering it. We however have been looking forward with eagerness to the appearance in your columns of a reply from responsible quarters, emphatically contradicting all the allegations and accusations made by your correspondent in question. But we are surprised to see that even though 4 weeks have elapsed since the articles began, no reply has yet been received from the Mutt authorities or from any other disciple, to reassure the minds of your readers at large.

What is *Amicus Minerva* doing? Many of us remember his enthusiastic biographical sketch of the late Jagad Guru (which appeared in the *Madras Standard* and was afterwards published in book form), his arduous struggle with the Government of Mysore until they restored self-government to the mutt and his spirited defence of the present system silencing all journalistic and other critics, and pounding them into a jelly! Again we repeat, what is "*Amicus Minerva*" doing?

RIKTHA MAYURA.

Referring them to Lr. dt 26/5/15 mentioned
Rejt.

File No. 538-14.
Serial No. 6

G. R. S. 26]

Diary No. of letter replied to

General and Revenue Secretariat
( )
, the *191* .

Date of issue

Signed by

Endorsement
No.

To Mr Bhargava Venkata ramana
and Mr Mr Sri Kantaiya.
Bangalore.

With reference to their
petitions dated the 12th
May 1915 addressed to
~~His Highness the Maharaja~~ Govt
~~of Mysore and to the Dewan~~
~~of Mysore~~ bringing to notice
the articles published in
the New India and the
Karnataka regarding
over.

SUBJECT.

~~Incumbent in the affairs~~ ~~His Highness Administration~~
of the Sri Sringeri Matha, ~~the Petitioner~~
Messrs Bhargava Venkatramana
and M. Srikantaiya are
~~requested that~~ is drawn
to Section ~~26~~ 2 of the Mysore
Regulation and ~~they~~ are informed
that an enquiry can be
initiated legally only
under that provision.

By order

lca
10.7.15

for W. Leech

RG
10.7.15

are informed
that the articles
referred to are
~~are~~ not a sufficient basis for
the initiation of
any exceptional measure ~~as~~ as suggested.
~~prefect of an old~~
~~and established~~
~~institution, which~~
~~is held in esteem~~
~~by a very large num-~~
~~ber~~

19/7/15

List of enclosures

Copied by

Examined by

GPB—25,000—4 3 13

12

267

G. R. S. 26]

9

File No.

Serial No.

Diary No. of letter replied to

Endorsement

No. 267 Dy 27.7.15

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* *191* .

Date of issue 27.7.15

Signed by Mr G. Narayana Rao

To

Mr. Bhargava Venkataramana

and Mr. M. Srikantaiya,

S r i n g e r i.

With reference to their petitions dated the 24th May 1915 addresse to Government bringing to notice the articles published in the "New India" and the Karnataka regarding the affairs of the-Sri Sringeri Matha, Messrs, Bhargava Venkataramana and M. Srikantaiya are informed that the articles referred to are

over.

SUBJECT.

26/7/15

not a sufficient basis for the initiation of any exceptional measure as suggested.

By Order,

For Offg.Secretary to Government.

List of enclosures

Copied by

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